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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

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A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E
Y E A R E N D I N G 31st D E C E M B E R,
1 9 5 6.



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A. W. HANSELL, M.B., B.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

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Medical Officer of Health.

BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

North Riding of Yorkshire.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the year ending
31st December, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedale Rural District Council,

SIR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report
for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

- (1) One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
- (2) One Public Health Inspector & Surveyor (Full-time)
- (3) One Additional Public Health Inspector (Part-time)
- (4) One Waterworks Manager (Full-time)

STATISTICS

Area	...	...	43,302 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1956)	...	...	8,050
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1956)	...	...	2,195
Rateable Value of the Area	...	...	£73,611
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	£ 304. 15. 7.

NOTE:

The figure given above for the estimated population includes Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the Area.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	61	54	115)
Illegitimate	2	7	9)
	<u>63</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>124</u>

Birth Rate 15.4

Stillbirths.


Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>Deaths.</u>	32	42	74	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 9.1
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Deaths from Maternal Causes ... Nil

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	1	1
			<u>2</u>



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Deaths of Infants under four weeks of Age

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) Laboratory facilities. | (b) Clinics and Treatment Centres. |
| (c) Nursing Services. | (d) Ambulance Services. |
| (e) Hospitals. | |

Accommodation for the chronic sick and infirm is still below the requirements of the Area.

This shortage could be largely remedied if the "Home Help" service could be extended to night service, as the necessity of locking up these cases alone at night makes it imperative to seek a bed in an Institution.

All the other services mentioned above have adequately met the needs of the District.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

W A T E R.

1. QUANTITY.

The water supply over the whole area has been satisfactory with the exception of the higher elevated places, namely Crakehall and Gebdykes where shortages have occurred during periods of peak demand. To overcome this trouble in the Crakehall area, the Council are constructing a service reservoir of 300,000 gallons capacity at Pasture Hill Cowling at an elevation of 480 feet above O.D. and this service reservoir is expected to be ready for use in March 1957. It will prevent the over-drawing of the 8" trunk main and will maintain an adequate and constant pressure of water to consumers in many of the higher elevated parts of the Council's District.

In the case of shortage in the Gebdykes area the Council will be considering the possibility of installing a booster pump fitted with the necessary time and pressure switches. This pump will improve the pressure and increase the delivery to the Gebdykes Storage Tank.

During the year the water level in the well at Tellerby was not seriously affected by drought.

2. FRACTURED MAINS.

During the year work on fractured mains has been carried out at Newton-le-Willows, Langthorne, Cowling, Scruton and Pedale. In all cases this work has been undertaken and carried out with the least possible inconvenience to consumers in the above-mentioned places.

3. QUALITY.

The water supply to the whole area has been treated by chlorination and the quality has been very satisfactory since my last Annual Report.

Eleven samples have been taken from fittings in various parts of the Council's area, receiving supplies from the Council's mains. All these were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis and in all cases proved satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

4. MAINS EXTENSION.

During the year a 3" main extension has been carried out in order to afford a supply to the new Bedale Council Houses at the South End building site.

5. CONSUMPTION.

Approximate daily consumption in the Bedale Rural District. (Normal consumers)	349,000 galls.
Approximate daily consumption in the Leyburn Rural District.	56,000 galls.
Leeming Aerodrome.	74,000 galls.
Total daily consumption.	<u>479,000 galls.</u>

6. CONNECTIONS AND METERS.

During the year, 48 connections have been taken from the Council's mains and 14 meters installed. These are supplying farms, private dwelling-houses and Council houses etc., in the Bedale Rural District.

7. PRESSURE RECORDERS.

Pressure Recorders have been installed in various parts of the District for record purposes.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

There have been no alterations made in the sewage disposal arrangements or the sewers of the area during the year under review. The existing arrangements have been maintained as well as possible but effluents in many cases are not satisfactory and cannot be improved until proper disposal works are provided.

The conversion of privies to water closets has been carried out in 35 cases but this work cannot be encouraged owing to the lack of proper sewerage facilities.

It has not been possible to proceed with any sewage schemes during the year although approval was given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the Carthorpe Scheme. It was then decided that the Wiskew and Bedale Scheme was more urgent and the Ministry agreed to a postponement of the Carthorpe scheme and allowed the more urgent scheme to proceed. This has been done and it is now expected that work will commence in April, 1957 and the complete scheme should be working by June or July 1958.

As a matter of interest to the Members, a table showing the construction and type of the present sewers in each village together with the sewage disposal arrangements in each case is set out below:-

Table showing Sewage Disposal Arrangements in the Area.

Village	Construction of Sewers	Disposal Arrangements
Ainderby Miers	None	None
Wiskew	Land tiles	Settling tanks with effluents to Bedale Beck and to various gutters.
Leeming Bar	San. Pipes and land tiles.	Modern Sewage Disposal Works.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (cont.)

Bedale	San. Pipes	Settling tanks - effluent to Bedale Beck.
Burneston	Land tiles and Culvert.	Settling tanks effluent to gutters and to Healam Beck.
Durrill	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to watercourse.
Cowling	None.	None.
Carthorpe	San. Pipes and land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to Healam Beck and to land drains south of village.
Clifton	None.	None.
Crokehall	Land tiles and San. Pipes.	Settling tanks - effluent to Beck.
Exelby	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to Main Cut.
Leeming	Land tiles and San. Pipes.	Settling tanks - effluent to Bedale Beck.
Londonderry	San. Pipes and land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to R.A.F. drain and to gutter.
Firby	None.	None.
Gatenby	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutter.
Hackforth	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to streams.
Howgrave	None.	None.
Killerby	None.	None.
Kirkby Fleetham	San. Pipes and land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutter and to water course.
Kirklington	San. Pipes and Brick culvert.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutter.
Langthorne	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutters.
Rookwith	None.	None.
Scruton.	San. Pipes and land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutters.
Shape	San. Pipes.	Settling tanks - effluent to water course.
Swainby	None.	None.
Theakston	Land tiles.	Connects to Burneston sewers.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (cont.)

Thirn	Land tiles and : culvert.	Settling tanks- effluent to gutter.
Thornton Watlass	Land tiles and San. Pipes.	Settling tanks - effluent to Pond.
Thornborough	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to gutter.
West Tanfield	San. Pipes.	Settling tank - effluent to river.
East Tanfield	None.	None.
Well	San. Pipes.	Settling tanks - effluent to water- course.
Great and Little Bencotes	Land tiles.	Settling tanks - effluent to water- course.
Nosterfield	San. Pipes.	Settling tanks, land irrigation and gutter.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse collection in the area is carried out by Contract, wet ashpits being emptied four times per year and dustbins weekly or fortnightly depending on the area concerned.

There has been a considerable improvement in the service in the past few months possibly due to the Contractor having commenced using two full-time vehicles for the work instead of one whole-time and one part-time as previously.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and a new tip has been opened up at the old brickyards at Leeming. This will provide many years of tipping space and will ultimately serve Bedale when the present tip is filled. The tips are regularly treated to keep them clear of rats and no serious infestations have occurred with the exception of the tip at Well which suddenly became heavily infested. This tip was immediately dealt with and very quickly cleared of vermin.

RODENT CONTROL.

No staff are regularly employed on this work but the Health Department have in stock suitable poison which can be sold to the public who are advised in its use. Where infestations are found the occupiers of the premises involved are requested to clear them and where necessary are advised in the best methods to use. A large number of the farms in the area are dealt with under contracts with the Agricultural Executive Committee. This arrangement appears to be very satisfactory.

HOUSING.

The inspection of all the houses in the area has proceeded steadily and detailed surveys of the unfit houses is going ahead. As soon as the survey in any village is completed a plan is prepared showing the unfit houses so that redevelopment of cleared sites can be planned. This would appear to be very necessary if unsightly gaps in the villages are to be avoided.

HOUSING, (cont.)

At the present time it is known from the survey that there are over 100 houses which are quite unfit for habitation and which must sooner or later be demolished. It is anticipated that this figure will be more than doubled when the survey is complete.

During the year, 5 houses have been dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 and in all cases there have been no objections to the Councils action.

All tenants from the Plews Yard Clearance area have been re-housed and demolition and clearance of the site is proceeding. Tenants from the areas at Nosterfield and Scruton have not yet been re-housed but it is hoped that the Nosterfield area will be cleared in 1957.

The Councils house building programme has proceeded steadily and 23 houses have been completed and occupied. Eighteen houses are in course of erection and a further 65 are planned and likely to proceed during the coming year. It is anticipated that a large proportion of the 65 houses will be needed to re-house persons from unfit dwellings.

Two old persons' bungalows have also been provided by conversion of the old Ablution Block at the Ex. W.L.A. Hostel, Leeming Bar. There are now eight bungalow type houses on this site, all are occupied and provide very satisfactory living accommodation at a reasonable rent.

Private house building has continued at a good rate, 12 houses have been completed and occupied and 12 are in progress.

Improvement and re-conditioning of existing houses has been encouraged and assistance by way of grants under the 1949 Housing Act has been given in 20 cases. This has resulted in 15 houses being brought up to modern standards during the year at very little cost to the ratepayers.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There have been no changes in the number of slaughter houses in the area and the 4 in use are all of good standard and well maintained.

All meat is inspected before leaving the slaughterhouse and a large proportion continues to be exported from the area. A statement showing the number of animals slaughtered and the quantity of meat condemned is attached to the report.

An interesting development in the area is the pre-packing of meat which has been commenced at one of the larger slaughtering establishments. A new building of very modern design is almost completed and will be used exclusively for this business. Great care is exercised in the handling and packing of the meat and the methods employed are quite satisfactory.

The methods of disposal of condemned meat are checked from time to time at the various slughtering prenisies and they are as follows:-

Vale of Mowbray Bacon Factory, Leeming Bar.

The factory is equipped with high pressure steam digesters and all condemned meat is disposed of in this manner.

The Abattoir, Aiskew, Mr. T. Curry, Aiskew, Mr. S. Rogers, West Tanfield.

The condemned meat in each case is disposed of to a well known firm of Hide Skin and Bone Merchants. It is removed from the premises 3 times per week, and is stained before removal.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (cont.)

Small quantities of food are from time to time inspected at the retail shops and where found unfit this is buried or in case of tinned food disposed of with the normal refuse from the premises.

MILK SUPPLY.

The bulk of the milk supply in the area is supplied by large Wholesale Dairies situated outside the area who deliver it each morning in sealed bottles to the local retailers ready for immediate delivery. Empty bottles are collected by the retailers and returned for cleansing by the wholesaler. There are three such retailers operating in the district and all have satisfactory premises. There are in addition a small number of producers of designated milk who retail a small proportion of their total yield in some of the villages. In each case the premises and methods are satisfactory.

FOOD SHOPS.

The 49 food premises in the area have all been inspected since the Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation and a number of improvements have already been secured. At some premises work has not yet been completed but no great difficulty has been experienced in securing compliance with the Regulations and all are now generally satisfactory.

There are no ice cream manufacturing premises in the area and in all cases where ice cream is sold it is supplied in the containers in which it is received.

The various types of food premises and the number of each class are set out below:-

Type of Premises.	No. of such premises in area.
Confectioners Shops	9.
Grocers Shops	30.
Green Grocers Shops	1.
Butchers Shops	7.
Bakehouses	4.
Fish & Chip Shops	2.
Cafes	3.
Premises from which ice cream is sold.	23.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part
during the year ending DECEMBER, 1956.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	3951	354	356	12145	74080
Number Inspected	3951	354	356	12145	74080
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	5	4	11	43	83
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	440	80	6	176	2079
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	11.3	23.7	4.8	1.8	2.9
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	5	8	1	-	15
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	312	150	-	-	2815
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.0	44.35	0.28	-	3.8
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Pneumonia	18	4
Scarlet Fever	4	Nil
Measles	3	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	57	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

Only three new cases of this disease were notified during the year.

	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non Respiratory</u>
(1)	34	M	1	-
(2)	51	M	1	-
(3)	29	M	-	1

No deaths from tuberculosis occurred during the year.

In conclusion I should, once again, like to refer to the two most urgent needs of the District.

- (1) More rapid progress with the re-construction and replacement of the present inadequate sewerage systems.
- (2) Still more and better houses throughout the area.

I should like to take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to your Public Health Inspectors and to your Waterworks Manager for the very valuable help they have rendered during the year.

I have the honour to be Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN W. HANSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

